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Point of View

Thesis Statement

Rush in the 80’s

Rush is a band known by an earlier generation. If you would have asked someone who Rush was in the 80’s, they would have been able to tell you right away. Now, barely anyone knows who they are and what great contributions they made to Rock and Roll. I have known of this great band for quite some time. I first was introduced to Rush quite some time ago. My drum instructor always was a fan, and he decided to pass on the rock. He grew up in the 80’s and he has learned a lot about the three men that form Rush. Since then, I have become a big fan and admire their skills on the stage and in the recording room. Rush in the 80’s is very important to me, not only because I like their music, but because it is “real” music. Now a days they don’t even use instruments, they just use computers and I can’t respect that the same. Also, the drummer for Rush is one of my personal drumming idols. He has accomplished so much with his drum sets. I’m pretty sure the 80’s wouldn’t have been the same without the awesome grooves of Rush.

First of all, Rush was at its prime in the 80’s. Their popularity began to soar with the making of the album *Permanent Waves*. Also, during the 80’s all three members of the band received many awards and recognitions. Geddy Lee, who is the band’s bass, keyboard, and synthesizer player, along with being the lead vocalist, was voted best rock bassist. Neil Peart, who is the group’s main percussionist, received quite a few awards. He was voted into the Modern Drummer Hall of Fame, he was voted the best rock drummer for 6 years in a row, he was chosen for best multi-Percussion for four years in a row, he was picked best percussion instrumentalist in 1982, and he was the most promising new drummer in 1980. As you can see, Neil is very good on the drum set. Also, Alex Lifeson was recognized for best rock talent in 1983 . He is the band’s main guitarist. Together these three Canadian men rocked the 80’s.

During the 1980’s the band put out some great albums and most of which were gold or platinum. The listeners also said that they enjoyed these albums more because the Geddy began to sing the vocals at a lower and more listenable range in his voice . The names of these 80’s albums are *Permanent Waves, Moving Pictures, Signals, Grace Under Pressure, Power Windows, Hold Your Fire, and Presto* . Some of these albums are more famous than others, and the two, *Power Windows* and *Moving Pictures*, both sold over one million copies. *Moving Pictures itself sold over four million copies*. Also, in 1982 the band produced a single hit called “New World Man” in the album, *Signals* . Another the band produced the two songs that many people knew them by, which were “Tom Sawyer” and “Limelight”. Then, when the band wasn’t in the studio during the 80’s they were out touring and doing performances.

All of these albums have a different meaning and were influenced by all three members working together. Another big thing that was put into these albums is the synthesizer and newer technology that was coming out. The synthesizers were very big in the 80’s, and Rush really knew how to incorporate them into their music. Geddy was really good on the synthesizers and keyboards, and he often used them as the melody. He often had multi-layered synthesizers for all the different effects and things that they added into their music. This new style seemed to be very catchy and people really liked it. Another big thing that complimented the new technological era in music, was Neil’s use of electric drums. Peart began to use Simmons electronic drums and percussion . He and many fans both seemed to like them a lot, and they gave the music a little bit of a different perspective.

In conclusion, I believe the band called Rush was a very influential band in the 1980’s. They gave so much to the rock and roll era, and gained a lot of fans from their hard work and great talents. I think that Rush was doing very well in the 80’s and all of the albums they put out in that time period are great ones. I have grown to admire Geddy, Neil, and Alex and all of their musical abilities and talents. They are all so good with their instruments, and they really know how to connect their music and make it flow. All of their albums in the 80’s were extremely popular, and the band even used the influence of new technology, which people enjoyed too. Rush is a great band, and I think that people should really consider some of their great 80’s hits, because they made “real” music.